IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

August 6, 1842. Ordered to be printed.—To accompany bill H. R. 255.

Mr. BATES submitted the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred House bill (255) for the relief of George Morris, report:

The petition of George Morris, of Orange county, Virginia, sets forth that he enlisted in the county of Louisa, of that State, in the early part of the Revolution, before he was sixteen years of age, as a volunteer, in a company commanded by Captain James Watson, for the purpose of guarding the British and Hessian prisoners called "Burgoyne's men," who were stationed at the barracks in the county of Albemarle, in the State of Virginia. He supposes his service to have been two or three months. He alleges that, after this tour of duty, orders were received for eighteen months' militia men to be draughted to serve in the southern army. Petitioner states that in 1780 he enlisted under Captain James Cannaday, and performed sundry tours at times not specified. He alleges he served until Cornwallis's surrender, at which time or soon after they were discharged, serving, according to his recollection and belief, near two months longer than the period of his enlistment. He makes oath to his statement, and adduces the testimony of two witnesses, David Shepherdson, who is to sustain the regular service, and William Smith, who alleges that he saw him in service, and at the siege of

The Commissioner of Pensions, in a letter in the case, of July 27, 1842, states that the records afford no evidence of the eighteen months in the Virginia line, and the first service in the militia was insufficient to entitle the petitioner to a pension; that the parol testimony is not only discredited by the silence of the rolls, but it contradicts the declaration of the claimant. For instance, Shepherdson is called upon to prove the regular service as a comrade, and his testimony clearly relates to some militia tour which claimant has not asserted. The proof is deemed insufficient. The committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of this resolution:

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Resolved, That the bill be indefinitely postponed.

Thomas Allen, print.

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